Appln. No.: 10/629,077

Amendment Dated September 16, 2008 Reply to Office Action of May 16, 2008

Remarks/Arguments:

With the present response, claims 23-30 are under examination, with claims 1-21 and 31-55 having been withdrawn pursuant to a restriction requirement.

We note that the Office Action incorrectly lists claim 22 being under examination. Claim 22 was canceled in the Response filed on August 15, 2007.

Claim Rejections

Claims 22-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0215320 to Machek ("Machek"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Claim 22 has been canceled, rendering the rejection of claim 22 moot.

Machek was filed on April 25, 2003. The claimed invention was invented prior to April 25, 2003. Applicants herewith submit a "Declaration of Prior Invention in the United States or in a NAFTA or WTO Member Country to Overcome Cited Patent or Publication (37 C.F.R. §1.131)" ("the Declaration"), in which Applicant James Weldon declares that the claimed invention was invented and actually reduced to practice at least before April 25, 2003, which is before the priority date of Machek. In light of the facts contained in the Declaration, Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention was invented prior to Machek's priority date, removing Machek as prior art.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 23-27 are patentable over the cited prior art. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claims 23-27.

Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 28-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Machek in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,254,628 to Wallace et al. ("Wallace"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

In light of the removal of Machek as prior art, Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims 28-30 are patentable over Wallace. Further, claims 28-30 ultimately depend from independent claim 26 and are patentable for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 26. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claims 28-30.

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Conclusion

In light of the above remarks and Declaration, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure: Declaration of Prior Invention in the United States or in a NAFTA or WTO Member Country to Overcome Cited Patent or Publication (37 C.F.R. §1.131)

Dated: September 16, 2008

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The Director is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. **18-0350** for any additional fees, or any underpayment or credit for overpayment in connection herewith.

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